

Good day to you all

My name is Karen and I live on Willow St. in Waterbury CT. and resent the fact of being called part of a Ghetto community. I live independently in a noncongregate setting. It is true that many recovery programs are in my area. People should have a choice in which part of the community they live in. The notion that NOT IN MY Back Yard is based on fear and misunderstandings of people who have Mental Health/Addictions. How is the stigma associated with each ever to be overcome if communities don't allow us to recover wether it be a residential program or independent living with or without supports. Take a good look at all the blight the Central Ave Hillside Ave Grove St area and what brings down the vaule of property and invites those who are involved in illicit activities to come in and take over. I urge you to allow recovery programs to expand and grow this is an example of what they are doing is working in helping people move beyond their disorders and become productive contributing people in the greater community.

Karen Wilkie

Bill #6596